

dear little sister. Really, I'm afraid I don't think as much about that as I might—or ought. Is that done? I'm much obliged." And Will kissed her and went off in a quick way, as if he feared she would say more.

"Dear little Alice! she did not know she had improved two opportunities, and that her words were stirring her brother's conscience uneasily.

"It's too near lunch time to go to Nellie's now," thought Alice. "I can read my 'Life and Adventures in Japan' until the bell rings." But as she went into the sitting-room, where she had left her book, grandma, who was engaged in knitting, said:

"Can my little girl snoop long enough to pick up these stitches for grandma? My old eyes won't let me see to put them on just right."

So Alice patiently took up the dropped stitches in grandma's knitting, and the lunch bell rang just as she finished. She could not help giving a little sigh as she thought of her book; but grandma stroked the curly hair, and thanked her in a way that made Alice feel that grandma knew of the small self-denial. Somehow grandma always seemed to know things without anyone telling her. In the afternoon Alice had to go to her drawing class. When she came home and was laying off her wraps in the hall she heard mother and Aunt Bell talking in the parlor.

"I was in to see Mrs. Elton this morning," said Aunt Bell; "she has been so shut up all winter; she has no nurse, and cannot leave her baby."

"I have missed her from church and prayer-meeting," said mother; "she used to go so regularly."

Alice went into the room and sat down to her book, but somehow she kept thinking about Mrs. Elton and prayer-meeting.

"Mamma," said she very slowly, and coloring a good deal, "would you care if I went over to Mrs. Elton's and took care of her baby, so she could go to prayer-meeting?"

"Certainly not, my dear. I think it would be very kind, neighborly thing for a little girl to do; but be very careful with baby."

"Indeed, it's very good of you, Allie," said Mrs. Elton, when Alice made known her errand. "I have wanted to go so much."

Alice took faithful care of her little charge, and felt not a little weary when the mother returned. But Mrs. Elton's brightened face and heartfelt thanks were a sweet reward for one hour's work, and her own heart told her it was more blessed to give than to receive.

"Has Allie found any opportunities to-day?" asked Aunt Bell, as she told Alice good-night.

"So many, auntie, that I feel almost afraid of such a great talent. Though, to

be sure, I have done only very little things."

"Your Bible says, 'Despise not the day of small things.' There are few of us, dear Allie, who do realize what a great talent opportunity is. In the meanwhile, look for it, and try to trade it well, and you may gain even ten talents."

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Happy Days.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 4, 1905.

HOW THE FIRE WENT OUT.

BY JULIA H. JOHNSTON.

Rosa, Bess and Lettie lived on the same street, a block apart. Bess lived in the middle.

They were all good neighbors, but suddenly something seemed to go wrong. Rosa said something unkind about Lettie, and Lettie said something hateful about Rosa, and Bess hurried to tell the other what each had said. At last the angry feelings grew so hot it seemed as if they would burn up all the warm, sweet love there had always been between the three little girls.

It was Bessie's grandma who first found out all about this.

"Bessie," she said, "suppose Nora should kindle a fire in the wood stove in the kitchen and then never put a chip or a stick of wood on it, what would happen?"

"The fire would go out," said Bess.

"Yes. You know that yourself. But that very thing is written in the Bible, too. It says in the book of Proverbs that 'where no wood is the fire goeth out,' but it says something else."

"What else?" asked Bess, wondering much.

"It says where there are no tale-bearers, or people who tell tales, you

know, that quarrels stop, just as a fire goes out where there's no wood to burn. When two people are angry at each other, there seems to be fire in their hearts, and every mean thing they hear about each other makes the fire burn more. If nobody tells the mean things, by-and-bye that fire will go out, because there's nothing to burn. Do you see?"

Bess hung her head, and stood still, thinking. "I see what you mean, grandma," she said.

"Now, dear, I'm sure you are making the fire burn by telling Lettie and Rosa what each says about the other, and it is as bad to help on a quarrel as to quarrel yourself. You are breaking Jesus' Golden Rule. Stop it at once, and say only pleasant things, and do not tell either of the girls anything the other says about her."

"I will try," said Bess, and she went upstairs to her room and stood by the window a long time. Then she went out to play with Rosa and Lettie. She tried hard to make them be friends, and of course, she succeeded, and by-and-bye, as there was really nothing to burn, that fire of anger went out.

THERE WERE TWO TO SEE.

Two boys were one day walking along the street together. One of them had just come out of a store where he had got some things for mamma. While waiting for the clerk to get them for him he had stood beside a large basket of fine ripe pears.

"Why did you not pocket some of those nice pears?" said the other boy, who had stood in the door and seen the fine chance he had to help himself. "There was no one to see you."

"Yes, there were two persons to see me, even if you had not been there. I was there to see myself, and I could never have felt happy again if I had stolen; and God was there to see me. And how could I have knelt down and said, 'Our Father who art in heaven,' if I had taken what did not belong to me?"

Let us always remember, when we are tempted to do wrong because no one seems to be looking at us, that at least two persons will know of the act: one the actor and the other the great Judge of all. —Olive Plants.

"I'LL PUT IT OFF."

Some little folks are apt to say,
When asked their task to touch:
"I'll put it off at least to-day;
It cannot matter much."

Time is always on the wing;
You cannot stop its flight;
Then do at once your little tasks:
You'll happier be at night.

But little duties still put off
Will end in "never done,"
And "By-and-bye is time enough"
Has ruined many a one.